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The Synod of New York

SPONSORS A COLLEGE

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF PUERTO RICO

SAN GERMAN PUERTO RICO

YOU SPONSOR A COLLEGE!

You like to have things of your own. You have them. The average income of all American families is $2,400.00 a year, while families in the rest of the world have an average annual income of $100.00 a year.

As American Christians, and as New York Presbyterians, we have great responsibilities.

One of our twenty-two Presbyteries in the Synod of New York is the Presbytery of Puerto Rico. We have a personal responsibility to this Presbytery—to its 45 churches and 5,000 members.

PUERTO RICO: OUR PROBLEM

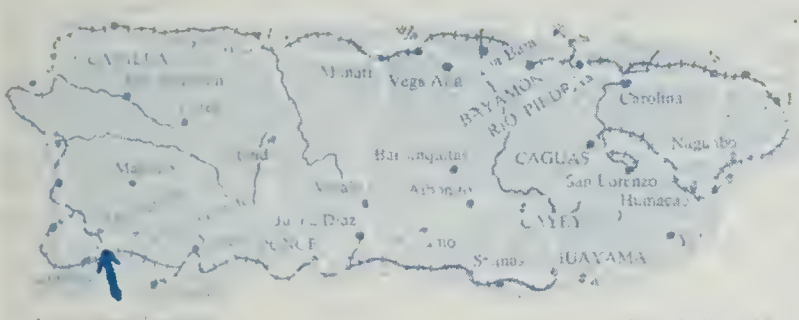
When Puerto Rico became part of the United States in 1898, there were 953,000 people on the island. To-day, there are 2,225,000 people. There is one-half acre of arable land per person, and the average family income is less than $400.00 a year. Sugar cane is the chief crop. It supports a worker for less than half of each year. The average wage is $2.80 a working day.

No wonder Puerto Ricans have taken advantage of their American citizenship and migrated to the mainland! There are now more than 500,000 in the State of New York alone. Large areas in our cities have been given over to them. Thousands of Puerto Ricans have moved into tenement flats, living five to ten in a single room. Unable to speak the language, many cannot find work, and go on relief.

Residents of New York State, in Buffalo, Syracuse, Rochester, Utica, Albany, in the lake region or in the Hudson Valley or on the Southern Tier have every reason to feel that Puerto Rico is their problem. What is our Christian responsibility?

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS THE KEY

Certainly this problem cannot be solved overnight. The place to begin is in Puerto Rico



itself. That island needs trained Christian leaders to improve conditions in health, agriculture, industry and family life. New York State needs teachers, ministers, and social workers who understand Puerto Ricans. To train these leaders, there must be a Christian college in Puerto Rico.

Long realizing this need, your Presbyterian Church has sponsored such a college in Puerto Rico. It is Polytechnic Institute, founded at San German in 1912. Last June, the Synod of New York voted unanimously to give its "blessing and support" to this significant institution. Polytechnic Institute is the key to our problem!

PUERTO RICO AT A GLANCE

Area in square miles	3,423
Average yearly temperature	75.3°
Birth rate per 1,000 for calendar year 1952	35.1
Death rate per 1,000 for calendar year 1952	9.0
Population, June 30, 1952, estimate	2,225,000
Population per square mile	650
Average daily purchases of U. S. goods	$1,200,000
Per capita income, 1940	$122
Per capita income, 1952	$399
Net Migration to U. S. mainland, 1948-52 annual average	41,035

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AT WORK

In forty years, Polytechnic Institute has graduated 1,225 Puerto Ricans. Nearly half of these have gone on for graduate work and are now doctors, lawyers, teachers, and Christian workers.

Polytechnic Institute is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges. Its graduates are admitted with full credit at leading American institutions. It is one of forty-four colleges officially sponsored by the Presbyterian Church, USA, and the first and only college so sponsored not on the mainland.

Equipped with a $2,000,000.00 plant, a beautiful campus, and an excellent faculty and staff, Polytechnic serves both the mainland and the island.

But every college has its needs. Polytechnic needs scholarships, an increased endowment fund, an enlarged plant, and better salaries for its faculty. The Synod of New York is one of the strongest in the Presbyterian Church. We have 284,000 members, 125,000 Sunday School students, and 844 active churches. Every Presbyterian in our Synod can help.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

With each adult member of a Presbyterian Church in our Synod giving $1.00 a year, and with each Sunday School student giving 15¢ a year, the immediate problems of Polytechnic can be met!

Will you help? Place a dollar in the enclosed envelope. Sign your name and church, so that your church will receive credit. Sunday School students place 15¢ in the enclosed envelope.

MY CONTRIBUTION

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____

Make checks payable to)
Send to your church or)
Request information from)

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